

Fall 8-15-2009

ENG 3804-001

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ENGLISH 3804

Dr. Olga Abella (olgafox@hotmail.com)
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Office Hours: MWF 10-11, 12-1
or by appointment.

- I. **TEXTS:** Roy Flannagan, Ed. The Riverside Milton
Aemilia Lanyer, The Poems of Aemilia Lanver

- II. **PURPOSE:** To read Milton's works to gain an understanding of his ideas and those of his time; and, in turn, to explore our own beliefs and ideologies.

- III. **ASSIGNMENTS** (with appropriate grade % for each):
 1. **In-Class Writing:** These will be unannounced short writing exercises given at the beginning of class, lasting around 10 to 15 minutes in response to the reading assigned for that day. These should pressure you to keep up with the reading so you can participate in class discussions. Because they are in-class assignments, they cannot be made up. If there are more than 5, the 5 highest grades will be averaged into one. (12%)

 2. **Critical Papers:** Two papers (**minimum 5 pgs**), **due Oct. 19 & Dec. 11**. Papers should be explorations of critical ideas that occur as you read the poetry and prose. Both shall be **analytical arguments** in which you examine Milton's work to prove the point you are making. These are **NOT RESEARCH PAPERS**. You will **NOT** use secondary sources. Topics and assignments will be discussed more specifically in class. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins to allow for comments. [This is a writing intensive class, so you will be allowed to revise the first paper and may submit it for the **EW**.] (20% each)

 3. **Class Participation:** Discussion is a very important part of this course. Expressing your reactions to the literature will help you to think critically about Milton's ideas, and that will help make writing the papers less intimidating. So, you will be expected to voice your thoughts. (13%)

 4. **Final Exam:** This examination will cover most of the semester's readings. Any readings that are excluded will be specified before the exam date. This exam will be open-book and given during the final exam week. (35%)

- IV. **ATTENDANCE:** Without regular attendance, you will probably not know enough about how the course readings have been examined and explained. Test questions will be based on lectures and discussions. Without knowing about these, you may well be unable to cope with the final examination. Each student is responsible for all of those parts of the classroom experience. In addition, **having more than 4 unexcused absences will result in a failing class participation grade.**

- V. **LATE WORK:** All assignments are due on the dates specified. Late papers will be graded down. If you cannot complete an assignment on time, you must see me **before** it is due.

- VI. **FINAL NOTE:** If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disabilities Services (6583) as soon as possible.

- Aug. 24 Introduction
 26 Background; "At a Vacation Exercise in the College" p.261
 28 "On the Death of a Fair Infant..." p.247; "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity" p.33;
 "On the University Carrier" p.62
- Sept. 31 "A Mask" (Comus) p.109
 2 Comus
 4 Comus; "Ad Patrem" p.223
 7 LABOR DAY: NO CLASS
 9 "Lycidas" p.94
 11 "Lycidas"; "How Soon Hath Time" p.85
 14 SONNETS: "When I Consider..." p.255; "To Mr. Cyriack Skinner..." p.29; "Methought I
 Saw" p.258; "To the Lord General Cromwell" p.290
 16 "On the Lord General Fairfax" p.289
 18 "On the Late Massacre in Piedmont" p.254
 21 Sonnets cont.
 23 Of Education p.977
 25 Of Education
 28 Prologues p.845,867,868,869,871 (in-class); The Reason of Church Government
 p.902,918,921,922,925 (in-class)
 30 The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce p.926-942, 950-955
 Oct. 2 The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce
 5 Areopagitica p.987
 7 Areopagitica
 9 FALL BREAK: NO CLASS
 12 Areopagitica
 14 Bible: Judges xiii-xvi (Samson story); Samson Agonistes p.783
 16 Samson Agonistes
 19 **PAPER #1 DUE**; Samson Agonistes; Bible: Genesis i-iii (creation story)
 21 Paradise Lost, p.296 (intro), Books 1&2, p.353
 23 Books 1&2
 26 Books 2&3
 28 Book 3
 30 Book 3
 Nov. 2 Book 4
 4 Book 4
 6 Book 5; end of Book 6
 9 Book 7; Book 8
 11 Book 8
 13 Book 9
 16 Book 9
 18 Book 9
 20 Book 10
 23 Thanksgiving Break
 25 Thanksgiving Break
 27 Thanksgiving Break
 30 Book 10
 Dec. 2 Book 11
 4 Book 11
 7 Book 12
 9 Book 12
 11 **PAPER #2 DUE**